

Message Text

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43

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W

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O 101225Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1107

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL ASMARA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

GMBASSY ROME 343

C O N F I D E N T I A L KHARTOUM 0410

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PINS, ET

SUBJECT: CISCO II

REF: STATE 31667

BEGIN SUMMARY: SUDANESE FORESEE FORWARD MOVEMENT ON
RELEASE OF REMAINING CAPTIVES AND CONTINUING THEIR
EFFORTS. CHINESE AND ITALIAN REPORTS AMERICANS
"WELL" AS OF FEBRUARY 2 AND LOCATED 75 MILES SOUTH
OF BORDER. AMERICANS AND OTHERS, EXCEPT BRITON,
REPORTEDLY SIGNED ANTI-EPMG STATEMENTS. END SUMMARY.

2. QEN EMBOFF INQUIRED INTO WELFARE TWO AMERICANS
HELPER BY PLF ON FEBRUARY 10 (KHARTOUM 383), SENIOR SUDANESE
SECURITY OFFICIAL OFFERED NO SPECIFIC REPLY BUT SAID THAT,
BASED ON TALK WITH PLF OFFICIAL WHO HAD ACCOMPANIED
ITALIAN AND CHINESE TO PORT SUDAN, HE "FELT" THERE

WAS FORWARD MOVEMENT ON RELEASE OF AMERICANS AND
"HOPED" FOR MORE NEWS SOON. SUDANESE OFFICIAL
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REASSURED EMBOFF THAT GOS CONTINUING MAKE EVERY

EFFORT SECURE RELEASE OF ALL AMERICANS IN ERITREAN HANDS.

2. EMBOFF HANDED OVER FOR TRANSMITTAL TRJELF TWO LETTERS FROM MRS. ROGER GAARE, SISTER OF RONALD MICHALKE, (ONE TO MICHALKE, ONE TO ELF), RECEIVED FROM S/CCT.

3. ALSO ON FEBRUARY 10, DCM SPOKE TO BRITISH EMBASSY OFFICERS, ONE OF WHOM HAD INTERROGATED TWO CHINESE AND THE OTHER OF WHOM HAD JUST SPOKEN TO ITALIAN EMBASSY. FOLLOIWNIG INFORMATION OBATINED.

A. CAMPBELL, HARRELL AND BURWOOD-TAYLOR LAST SEEN BY ITALIAN AND CHINESE ON FEBRUARY 2.? 2HEN LATTER BEGAN FINAL TRIP TO SUDAN. ALL SEEMED WELL. ITALIAN AND CHINESE NOT PERMITTED TALK TO OTHERS AFTER RE-ENTERING CAMP FROM PORT SUDAN AND THEREFORE UNABLE BE MORE SPECIFIC. HOWEVER, ALL HAD BEEN VISITED REGULARLY BY LOCAL DOCTOR.

B. PLACE OF CAPTIVITY IDENTIFIED BY CHINESE AS SAHA, APPROXIMATELY 75 MILES SOUTH OF BORDER TOWN OF KARORA. AREA REPORTEDLY WHOLLY CONTROLLED BY PLF.

C. ALL SIX CAPTIVES HAD BEEN HELD TOGETHER AT SAHA FROM DECEMBER 18 UNTIL MID-JANUARY, WHEN ITALIAN AND CHINESE TAKEN ON FIRST TREK TO PORT SUDAN. SIX LIVES IN PAIRS IN THREE STONE HUTS: TWO

AMERICANS, TWO CHINESE, AND BURWOOD-TAYLOR AND FALANCHI. EACH PAIR CONFINDED FOR MOST OF DAY TO HUTS AND HAD LIMITED CONTACT WITH OTHERS.

D. BEFORE ITALIAN AND CHINESE LEFT SAHA IN MID-JANUARY, THEY AND OTHER THREE WERE ASKED TO

SIGN PAPERS THAT DAMNED EPMG AND PRAISED ERITREAN

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LIBERATION MOVEMENT.ITALIAN AND CHINESE SIGNED AND, ACCORDING TO LATTER, SO DID BOTH AMERICANS. BURWOOD-TAYLOR REPORTEDLY REFUSED. NEVERTHELESS, THE CHINESE HAVE "IMPRESSION" THAT BURWOOD-TAYLOR WOULD BE NEXT ONE RELEASED.

E. CHINESE AND ITALIANS HEARD NO TALK WHILE IN CAPITIVITY OF RANSOM WITH RESPECT TO AMERICANS

OR BURWOOD-TAYLOR.

F. FALANCHI HAS RETURNED TO ITALY. TWO
CHINESE STILL IN KHARTOUM WITH ONWARD DESTINATION
NOT YET DECIDED. BREWER

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